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LETTER DATED 14 AUGUST 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform the Security Council of the situation prevailing in the Congolese town of Bunia, where a massive gathering of forces of the regular army of Uganda is reported to have taken place. Moreover, these invasion forces are reported to have assembled a supply of heavy and light arms.

In addition, I wish to confirm that the armed forces of the Rwandan-Ugandan coalition have cut off the supply of water and electric power to the city of Kinshasa. The risk of a major humanitarian disaster in the capital, which is inhabited by more than six million people, is therefore tremendous. We have already received reports of many deaths in Kinshasa's hospitals as a result of these supply cuts.

Lastly, as noted in my letter of 10 August 1998, Congolese civilians in the Kivu provinces are being deported to Rwanda and summarily executed.

Once again, my Government calls the Security Council to witness the blatant aggression of Uganda and Rwanda against the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as the inhuman practices and violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law perpetrated against the Congolese population by the authorities of those two countries.

My Government once again calls upon the Security Council to assume all its responsibilities and to play fully its role in maintaining international peace and security, and urges the Council:

1. To strongly condemn the invasion of Congolese territory by Rwandan and Ugandan troops;

2. To demand that Rwanda and Uganda withdraw their troops immediately from Congolese territory;

3. To demand that Rwanda and Uganda put an immediate stop to all acts of extortion against the Congolese population.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) André MWAMBA KAPANGA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative